

OFFICE OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
CIVIL AIR PATROL

TRAINING DIRECTIVE)
NO. 31)

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 12, 1942

FAMILIARIZATION WITH THE USE OF SMALL ARMS

1. General

Civil Air Patrol is now operating extensive Courier for the Military Services in many locations throughout the United States. Much of this Courier entails the carrying of certain equipment and documents of such a nature as to make it necessary to arm the pilots and other personnel who are carrying on this operation.

a. In view of the fact that such service is being widely expanded, and in view of the fact that many of the members of Civil Air Patrol, who may be called upon to perform such service, are unfamiliar with the use of fire arms, it is deemed advisable that suitable instruction be given so as to familiarize all members of Civil Air Patrol with the use of small arms, particularly the pistol.

b. Great care must be exercised in the carrying out of this program, as it must be borne in mind that the U. S. Government and the several States all have laws and regulations pertaining to the possession, carrying, and the use of fire arms.

c. If the second phase of this training course is to be carried out, it will be necessary for the several Unit Commanders to contact and establish satisfactory relations with the appropriate law enforcement agencies, to determine just how that part of the program can be successfully carried out without violating any laws pertaining thereto.

d. This Training Directive must not be construed as granting any authority to anyone to possess, carry, or use fire arms. It is published purely to point out the deficiency and the necessity, and to encourage familiarization with the use of small arms among all personnel of Civil Air Patrol, under the supervision of appropriate law enforcing agencies, to the end that Civil Air Patrol may be better prepared.

2. Text

Basic Field Manual (FM 23-36) "Revolver, Colt, Caliber .45, M1917, and Revolver, Smith and Wesson, Caliber .45, M1917", published by the War Department, will be used as the text for instruction in this subject.

11/12/42

3. Distribution

Copies of this Directive and text will be distributed on the basis of four copies per headquarters.

4. Type of Instruction

The course will be divided into two sections. The first phase to include all instructions as relates to the use of small arms that can successfully be carried out either in class room or armory. The second phase to consist of actual range firing practice.

NOTE: (This Headquarters realizes that there may be certain Units that will not be able to carry out the second phase of this training program due to lack of suitable arms and ammunition or range facilities, but they are encouraged to proceed, at least, with the familiarization portion of the course.)

5. Requirement

All personnel of Civil Air Patrol are eligible to take this course. Instructors will certify the service record of each member who completes the course, and satisfactorily demonstrates proficiency in the use of the pistol.

6. Instruction Procedure

The services of qualified instructors should be solicited from units of the Army and Navy where available, and/or from the appropriate local law enforcing agencies.

By direction of National Commander JOHNSON:

OFFICIAL:



George M. Hines
GEORGE M. HINES
1st LIEUT., A.A.F.
ADJUTANT

Sheldon B. Steers
SHELDON B. STEERS
Captain, A. A. F.
Training Officer